UNITED NATIONS

Convention to Combat Desertification

Distr.
GENERAL

ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.2 (B)
28 November 2000

ENGLISH/FRENCH ONLY

CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
Fourth session
Bonn, 11-22 December 2000
Item 7 (a) and (b) of the provisional agenda[1]

# IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION

## (a) REVIEW OF REPORTS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF AFFECTED COUNTRY PARTIES OF REGIONS OTHER THAN AFRICA, INCLUDING ON THE PARTICIPATORY PROCESS, AND ON EXPERIENCE GAINED AND RESULTS ACHIEVED IN THE PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL ACTION PROGRAMMES

## (b) REVIEW OF THE REPORT ON PROGRESS MADE IN THE FORMULATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF SUBREGIONAL AND REGIONAL ACTION PROGRAMMES IN REGIONS OTHER THAN AFRICA

Addendum

## COMPILATION OF SUMMARIES OF REPORTS SUBMITTED BY LATIN AMERICAN AND THE CARIBBEAN COUNTRY PARTIES[2]

**Note by the secretariat**

1. By its decision 4/COP.3, the Conference of the Parties (COP) decided to undertake, at its fourth session, the review of reports on the implementation of affected country Parties of regions other than Africa, including reports on the participatory process and on experiences gained and results achieved in the preparation and implementation of national action programmes.

2. Pursuant to decision 11/COP.1, the secretariat was requested to compile the summaries of reports submitted by affected country Parties and submit the compilation to the Conference of the Parties for consideration and for any action the COP may wish to take. Decision 11/COP.1 also provided procedures and formats for reporting to the COP and required, in particular, a summary of the national reports, not to exceed six pages.

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1 ICCD/COP(4)/1.

2 Reproduced without formal editing.

3. The present document contains the summaries of national reports submitted by six country Parties from the Latin American and the Caribbean Region. These are: Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana and Haiti. The secretariat will also make this compilation of summaries available on its Web site (www.unccd.int) for wider circulation.

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**ECUADOR**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 Introduction

In Ecuador, desertification was recognized a few years ago as an environmental problem at a national level. It affects all the provinces of the Sierra and three in the Ecuadorian coast (Lugo 1995). There are no complete studies in Ecuador that analyse jointly all the main factors that cause desertification. Nevertheless, it has been estimated that 27 per cent of the countries' surface possesses an evapotranspiration potential relation ' precipitation that is equal or less than one, and therefore, constitutes the areas most prone to desertification (MAG/PSA 1999).

In Ecuador, the irrational exploitation of the natural resources has been the cause that for most of the practices that cause desertification to rise to high levels. According to MAG-ORSTOM (1984), almost 47.9 per cent of the country is affected by erosion problems, that is around 123.555 $km^2$. The rate of deforestation in the country is 2.3 per cent (WRI in Vásquez and Ulloa 1996), which has been the cause for the loss of 92 per cent of the vegetation cover (Sierra et al 1999). Finally, 77.8 per cent of the rural population and 44.6 per cent of the urban population of the country are under conditions of extreme poverty (INFOPLAN, 1999).

The provinces that are most affected by desertification are Manabí in the coast and Loja and Chimborazo in the Sierra and it is precisely at the provincial level where the aforementioned factors reach alarming levels. Therefore, in these provinces the vegetation cover occupies only between 25 and 30 per cent of the territory; the erosion processes affect 55 to 75 per cent of the surface and poverty affects 64 to 80 per cent of the population. The lack of productivity of the land together with the long and intense dry periods have caused 3.4 to 7.6 per cent of the populations of Loja, Manabí and Chimborazo to emigrate. These provinces are among the five provinces with the highest emigration indexes in the country. Therefore, it is precisely at this level that many efforts have been made to attack this problem even before the ratifying the Convention.

Ecuador, preoccupied with the environmental situation present in the country, participated actively in the preparation and negotiation of the CLCD, which was ratified by the Executive Power and published in the Official Register of 6 September 1995. The drafting of the National Action Plan against Desertification (PAND) started in October 1995. Since that year up to the present, the process was carried out intermittently between periods of great activity and other of none. A national political context marked by instability, incipient consolidation of an authoritative environmental policy and especially, the lack of continuous and adequate financial support, have contributed to Ecuador not being able to finalize the process of drafting the PAND. However, and in spite of all obstacles, various national governmental and non-governmental institutions have carried out great efforts to continue with the processes, among these: the Ministry of the Environment (MA), in particular the Department of International Agreements; the Ministry of Agriculture (MAG), through their Sectorial Agriculture Programme (PSA); the Ecuadorian Forestry, Natural and Protected Areas Institute (INEFAN); the University of Loja, through their Graduate Centre; the International Network of Organizations for Desertification (RIOD), in particular, EcoCiencia, the focal point of the network in the country.

This National Report follows the guidelines of the methodological guide, which may apply best under the conditions of the countries that elaborated and are executing PAND. Given that Ecuador is in the process of drafting the Plan, the answers to most of the questions in the guide refer to the preparation stage

and not to the application. This report highlights the efforts made by different organizations to face the problem of desertification specifically within a broader agenda. These efforts have been carried out without considering PAND, given the problems that Ecuador faces due to desertification.

1.2 Strategies and priorities established within the context of the plans and/or policies of sustainable development

In Ecuador no specific plans or strategies have been established to combat desertification. However, there are policies that include measures to detain the practices that cause it, especially in the environmental field, and at the sectarian level, in the areas of agriculture, water resources and energy.

Ecuadorian environmental policies started to be set forth since the mid-1970s, a period in which many important laws and regulations were issued (see section 4.3 regarding the legal framework) and programmes were established, all related to environmental management. Among these, the following may be highlighted:

- Establishment of the National Programme for Soil Conservation (1980-1984) which carries out a diagnosis of the situation of the soils in Ecuador; the main erosion processes in the country are defined;

- Agenda for Development: 1993-1996 (CONADE 1993), in which a profile of the environmental problems of the country are defined and desertification is established as a national problem.

With the establishment of the Environment Advisory Committee for the President of the Republic of Ecuador (CAAM), the environmental institutionality starts to become a national strategy and policy. CAAM, promotes the process for the drafting of three fundamental elements: first, the Basic Principles for Environmental Management (approved in December 1993); second, the Basic Environmental Policies (approved in 1994), in which Ecuador establishes that it faces 11 environmental problems, among them desertification.

The third element of this process, the Ecuadorian Environmental Plan (approved in 1994) was developed by CAAM to be an operative instrument through which the implementation of policies is facilitated. As in the case of CLCD it establishes that the efficacy of environmental management depends on key factors such as: institutional, economical, science and technology, participation and education and information.

All these plans, programmes and projects were planned in 1995, unfortunately, due to the political instability in the country between 1996 and 1999 and especially due to the lack of economic resources for its financing, none of the proposals for the Fight against Desertification have been carried out.

After ratifying the CLCD, in the country four planning tools for the environmental, social and economic areas were developed. These are in chronological order, first the National Plan for Social Development (1996), which is a document drafted by the Technical Secretariat of the Social Front, whose focus is not the management of natural resources but the pressures on them. The Plan recognizes desertification as an environmental problem in the Ecuadorian coast but does not recognize its importance in the Sierra. Second, the Special Programme of Food Security of Ecuador, PESAE (1997), created on 19 October 1997, among its main actions is to support the establishment of policies and strategies for food security and the creation of a National Committee for Food Security established by institutions involved in the theme. Third, the National Strategy for Sustainable Development (1999) developed by the MA based on PAE. The strategy defines the government's general policy on themes related to the environment and sustainable development. Even though it does not

define desertification as a problem, it shares the CLCD's focus, considering civil participation as a mechanism necessary for the management of different resources. Finally, the Environmental Policy for the Agriculture Sector (1999), developed by the PSA and MG considering the direct incidence that the environment has on agricultural productivity. This programme has developed a series of documents in which the agricultural situation is analysed and general policies are proposed regarding land, socio-economic factors, soil, water, agrochemicals and the general processes that directly or indirectly influence productivity.

1.3 Institutional measures taken to implement the Convention

Ecuador, as part of the process of formulating the PAND, has defined the structures and functions of the National Coordination Organ (OCN) which in Ecuador is known as the National Committee against Desertification (CLND). The themes related to legal personality, legal capacity and financial autonomy of this committee have not yet been discussed within the proposed institutional background. The CLND will be established once the drafting of the PAND is reactivated.

In the participatory workshops an institutional structure was proposed for the preparatory stage of the PAND and another one for its execution. Both structures contemplate the conformation of the CLND as the maximum coordinating organism of the Regional Committees (CRs) and the Local Committees (CLs). However, there is a proposal that for the drafting phase, a coordinator should direct the CLND supported by the Technical Secretariat. For the execution phase the Committee should be directed by the current technical focal point, the department of International Agreements of the MA, which will act as the Executive Secretariat supported by the previously established Technical Secretariat. In both cases, the secretariats will be in charge of supporting and following the application of PAND at a national and local level.

During the preparatory stage of the Plan, the CLND will have the following roles: gathering additional funds to continue with the process; gathering and analysing the information received by the Regional Committees; preparation of the first PAND proposal; and, coordination of consultative meetings and validation of the plan at the national level. During the execution it will be in charge of gathering funds for the implementation of projects and programmes at the regional level; and, the establishment of contacts for a technical and scientific exchange with scientific organizations or special guests.

The functions of the Regional Committee, during the drafting of the PAND, will be: analysis of the results of the regional workshops; selection of priority programmes and projects and the initiatives of the NGOs and local communities; preparation of programmes for regional actions. During the execution stage, they will have the following functions: systemizing experiences, investigating alternative solutions, promoting capacity-building actions, promoting dissemination actions and carrying out monitoring and evaluations.

In Ecuador, the establishment of these institutional structures was promoted during the first stage of the process of implementing the Convention; unfortunately, the lack of continuity during the process and the lack of financial support did not permit the consolidation.

The CLND will be made up of nine institutions from the governmental sector and five from the non-governmental sector that have a wide span, representation and permanence, enough resources and power of decision. Each one of these institutions will assign a permanent delegate to the committee who will have power of decision.

Various actors participated in the CRs, among these: provincial councils, municipalities, NGOs, regional corporations, indigenous organizations, the church and the representatives of the institutions that are part of the CLND. Town councils, local NGOs, grass-roots organizations, the church, among others, form the Cls.

The CLND, through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, will have a direct relationship with the Agreement's Secretariat in order to carry out the roles mentioned in the previous numeral, especially those related to fund-raising.

Various inventories of national and regional projects related to desertification has been carried out for the drafting of PAND. A database is being developed with this information. Parallel to this effort and as part of the objective of supporting environmental management, the MA has developed a System of Information on the Environment (SIAM), which includes a database on international agreements, among these the CLCD and the Centre of Information on Biodiversity (CIBE). Other than the initiatives of the MA, there are various institutions in the country that have databases with information on different aspects related to desertification, such as: the MAG, the Office of Planning of the Presidency, ODELPLAN, the Centre of Agricultural Information of the University of Loja (CINFA); EcoCiencia Foundation in its Projects Biodiversity Conservation' and 'Paramo Conservation'; and, FAO-MAG with its Special Programme for Food Security.

The PAND proposal was drafted in August 1999, and since that date until now no development plans have been developed at the national level regarding the economic and social areas. In the environmental protection theme, Ecuador, as part of the Convention of Biological Diversity, is drafting the National Strategy on Biodiversity. For this, the focal point of the CLCD will promote working groups with the group that is responsible for the strategy in order to discuss the document proposed by PAND and define the synergies, focus and operative, among the conventions. The same process will be carried out with the group responsible for the Convention on Climate Change.

In the future, the interinstitutional structure of the CLND will allow the inclusion of the PAND guidelines in the working agenda of various governmental institutions, especially those related to planning. In order to consolidate this process, the PAND proposal includes among its lines of actions, its dissemination in various political spheres within the country. In this way, its guidelines may be included in the drafting of future national strategies.

At a subregional level, the country is supporting the establishment of a Subregional Plan of Action for the American Puna (PAS/Puna), an initiative of Peru, Bolivia, Chile, Argentina and Ecuador. The objectives of this plan are to promote research, information exchange, experiences, training and the development of policies for the conservation and management of the paramo and puna ecosystems at the subregional level.

Desertification, and specifically the factors that have caused it, have been the themes for at least ten laws in the country; among these are the Political Constitution of Ecuador and other laws for the agriculture, water and environmental management areas.

1.4 Participative process in supporting the preparation and implementation of PAND

Drafting of PAND started at the beginning of October 1995 according to the principles established by the CLCD. In order to analyse the local necessities, six regional workshops were carried out in six cities representing the countries' regions that are most affected by the process of desertification and drought. The workshops' results were processed by the Regional Coordination

Committees and presented during the First National Workshop, which was carried out during 26-27 February 1997 under the coordination of INEFAN and EcoCiencia.

The regional workshops had the participation of a total of 241 representatives of a diverse group of institutions. 105 participants were present in the First National Workshop, 60 OG representatives, 15 ONGs, six indigenous communities, nine universities, four professional guilds, two from the private sector, two foreign guests and seven representatives of cooperation agencies and international projects. The Second National Workshop, for the discussion of the final draft of PAND, had 29 participants, representatives of 14 OGs, 5 ONGs, 2 international organisms, 5 grass-roots organizations and 3 from academia.

During this process, some documents and reports were disseminated to the actors and have been the base for the preparation of the first draft of the PAND document. The draft of the PAND document was disseminated among institutions, organizations and persons that had participated in the preparative process for its discussion. During the Second National Workshop comments on the document were gathered and systemized; these are described in the Memories of the Second National Workshop.

1.5 Consultative process for supporting the preparation and implementation of PAND and the association agreements with developed countries and other organisms

The first consultative process with the cooperation agencies was carried out during the First National Workshop. Seven representatives of cooperation agencies and international projects assisted. They received information on the priorities for action at the national and regional level in order to combat the desertification problem. Unfortunately, due to the diverse obstacles that have impeded the definition of PAND, no association agreements were established with the international counterparts in order to finalize the drafting process or its future application. The reactivation phase for the formulation of the Plan will include new consultative rounds that will have the general objective of guiding support from the developed countries and multilateral cooperation organisms.

1.6 Measures adopted or planned within the context of PAND, including measures to promote environmental economy, conservation of natural resources, promotion of institutional organization, improving knowledge on desertification and its control for monitoring and evaluation of desertification and drought

Diverse institutions as DINAREN (formally PRONAREG), the National Council of Water Resources, CNRH, the National Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology (INAMHI), INEFAN; CAAM, MA, Centre of Natural Resource Integrated Surveys by Remote Sensors (CLIRSEN); at the regional level, the regional corporations; at the local level, the municipalities and the provincial councils; in academia, the National University of Loja and the Universidad Laica Eloy Alfaro; have been charged with the inventory and characterization of natural resources in the country, particularly regarding soil, vegetation and water. Most of the studies carried out by these institutions, except those recently created, have information that will enable an adequate monitoring of the factors that promote desertification.

The importance of the problem of droughts and desertification at the national level, and especially their wide incidence at regional level, have given way to the development of programmes and specific projects on desertification by several governmental and non-governmental institutions or that they contemplate desertification as part of a broader agenda. Ten government institutions, 14 non-government organizations and 5 of the academic sector are carrying out projects related to the desertification. These projects approach diverse topics, among the most important: management of forest

resources, agroforestry, improvement of the agricultural and cattle productivity, agroecology and irrigation. Among these initiatives, the proposal for management of the binational basin Catamayo-Chira (Ecuador-Peru) should be highlighted. This project involves management of 70 per cent of Loja, for which a consortium of 14 institutions of the Government and non-government sectors, grass-roots organizations and academic institutions has been created.

In general, all the mentioned projects include, as a central axis, capacity-building and empowerment of local organizations in order to combat desertification or the factors that cause it. Training efforts in the field of formal education have been directed by the Council of Universities and Polytechnic Schools (CONUEP), which carried out a Workshop-Seminar on Biodiversity and Desertification, in Manta in 1997. In the long term, CONUEP plans to develop a Masters Programme of Environmental Administration with three thematic axes: Contamination, Desertification and Biodiversity. This proposal is in the fund allocation stage.

The MA, in an effort to promote the inclusion of the environmental topic in local administration, has developed, since 1997, the project Technical Assistance and Remediation of the Environment, PATRA, whose objectives are to invigorate the key institutions of environmental management from the central Government and the Municipal Governments. The Association of Municipalities of Ecuador, AME, also works towards advising the municipalities of the country for the elaboration of Local Strategic Plans. One of these components is environmental management.

The country is participating in the definition of the Subregional Plan for the American Puna, PAS/puna. In Ecuador, this proposal is directed by the MA and EcoCiencia, focal point of the RIOD, through the Working Group for Paramos, GTP, a multidisciplinary platform open to the exchange of experiences in paramo management.

1.7 Financial contributions from the national budgets to support installation, financial assistance and technical cooperation, including their affluence, processes to identify their requirements, financing areas and establishment of priorities

The theme of accessibility of the local actors to the existent financing sources is contemplated in the proposal of the PAND. The creation or definition of a specific mechanism that will guarantee financing to combat desertification in Ecuador is still under discussion. On this aspect, strategies developed by the MA that can be applied to the desertification theme, such as: the National Environment Fund (FAN), the Strategy of Bilateral Technical Cooperation and that of applying the Mechanism of Clean Development (MDL), are being studied.

In general, the process of elaboration of the PAND has not had financing that will allow processes of long-term development; on the contrary, the funds have been scarce and discontinuous. During these five years, the country has received $41,500 for the elaboration of the PAND, which doesn't sympathize with the serious problems that the country faces in the desertification theme. Even more, most of the funds have been allocated as result of direct contacts with bilateral cooperation and not as part of the commitments of the Secretary or of the financing organisms related with the Convention. Offers of financing by FAO have existed, from a $50,000 fund, and, from the Secretary of the Convention that promised support by financing an international consultant during one year, unfortunately these offers have not been fulfilled yet.

For the reactivation of the process it is hoped finally to have support from the financial organisms of the Convention, among these the world mechanism, that should by mandate economically support to the country's efforts to apply the Convention and to prevent or to mitigate the serious effects of desertification.

1.8 Review of the reference points and indicators used to measure the progresses and their evaluation

The development of a system of information and desertification monitoring at the national level is an aspect taken into consideration in the PAND proposal, in their line of action 2 on Science and Technology. Within this theme it is necessary to highlight the efforts carried out by other institutions in this field, activities developed without having the PAND background, given the importance of this environmental problem in the agricultural field. Such is the case of the following projects: System of Environmental Monitoring for the Agricultural Sector, developed by MAG, in particular by the Environmental Management Unit and the PSA in agreement with the DINAREN, CLIRSEN and the Interamerican Institute for the Agricultural Cooperation, IICA.

Another initiative of monitoring of desertification and drought that should be highlighted, is the one carried out by the Universidad Laica Eloy Alfaro of Manta, Manabí through their project Monitoring of the Desertification and the Drought in Manabí, which is being partially executed due to the lack of funds.

**EL SALVADOR**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Background

The Republic of El Salvador is located between latitudes 13' 10' and 14' 27' North and longitudes 87' 43' and 90' 08' West; it's the smallest and most densely populated country in the Latin American region. There are several ecological zones, ranging from the savannah vegetation in the central part of the country, the nebulous forests in the high parts until the mangrove forests in the coastal area. Its little territorial extension and a high population density make that the natural resources are subject to the population's growing pressure. For its location in the slope of the Pacific, it presents a regime of rains with a lingering dry season and a rainy season, which presents a decrease of precipitation for 30 days, called midsummer (canícula). This phenomenon occurs mainly in the East Zone of the country every year, where it usually causes negative impacts on the economy and regional agriculture, mainly in the production of basic grains and the production and distribution of drinkable water for different uses.

Extent and Severity of Desertification

The phenomenon of desertification in El Salvador with regard to its extent, severity and increasing rate; just as it was established by the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), is a process that still needs to be fully researched. However, in the Raising Awareness Journeys carried out, drought is recognised as an environmental problem, which is seen to a greater extent in the East Zone of the country. The most palpable evidence of this environmental problem is the gradual deterioration of soils, caused by unsustainable human activities, mainly due to ill practices of subsistence agriculture in hillsides and to the inadequate use of soil. Other indirect causes also exist, such as legal, institutional, lack of research, low educational standards and others which seen as a whole, contribute to such a deterioration. In 1985, it was estimated that 59 million metric tons of soils were lost annually by erosion, within 75 per cent of the national territory. It really should be said that a desertification process already exists in the country, assuming that the UNCCD refers to the "deterioration of the physical, chemical and biological properties or the economic properties of soil." It is notorious that in part of the territory soils are more deteriorated in those areas where problems of drought exist. The soil loss due to erosion is a problem that has affected the country for many years.

Past National Efforts to Combat Desertification

On June 27th 1997, the Legislative Assembly of El Salvador ratified the UNCCD, and since then several efforts have been carried out to follow it up in the country. Two Raising Awareness Journeys have been carried out, one in San Salvador in 1998, Capital of the Republic, and another in the City of La Unión in 1999, in the country's East Zone. As a result of these efforts the basic inputs have been obtained that will help to draw up the National Action Plan (NAP). An Interinstitutional Committee for National Consultation has been created with representatives of different government's institutions, the private sector, a University and a non-governmental organisation which is working in following up the commitments established by the Convention. The drawing up of the National Report is another important step in the follow-up and implementation of the Convention.

Strategies and Established Priorities

The Strategic Plan of the New Alliance put forward for the 1999-2004 period is the main development instrument of the Salvadorian government; it is based on the country's reality, it contains novel positions, visions and integral solutions, an environmental component stands out aiming at human development. Basic conditions are laid down to work for the country's sustainable development where economy and nature work in a harmonious way. In the present Plan of National Development it is evident the intention of approaching the problem of degradation of lands in a more direct and effective way than before. It aims, for instance, at "implementing a policy on managing and rational use of soil to minimize its degradation and use such a resource in a sustainable way". It also sustains that the participation and decentralization process produces better projects, a more effective and democratic state and a more functional, solid and competitive market. In each one of the policies of the New Alliance, institutional programmes have been formulated that contain operative actions to be implemented starting in the year 2000. Within the environmental laws linked with the phenomenon of desertification, there are national and sectoral policies and an environmental legislation, which is indirectly related with this phenomenon, being this the most notorious characteristic in the Salvadoran legislation. There exists other plans and several institutions, which have indirect relationships with desertification and drought.

Institutional measures taken

At the moment, the Organ of National Coordination (ONC) is the Natural Heritage Direction of the Environment and Natural Resources Ministry (MARN), in charge of formulation, planning and execution of natural resources policies. The National Focal Point of the Convention of the United Nations to Combat Desertification is at the MARN offices. The Non-governmental Focal Point is the Salvadoran Centre of Appropriate Technology (CESTA). An Interinstitutional Committee of National Consultation has been created, which depends on the Organ of National Coordination and the National Focal Point, which meets regularly. Their members are responsible to follow-up and coordinate activities for the implementation of the Convention. The financial resources of the ONC depend on the annual budget assigned to MARN; therefore, the ONC doesn't count on financial resources of its own. Only a person at MARN (the Focal Point) works in the following up of the Convention, assisting other responsibilities that are commended to him. The country still needs to take the necessary actions to form an institutional framework to control desertification in a coherent and functional way. El Salvador doesn't report progress as regard to connections or local, national links and with the other Central American countries through projects on desertification and degradation of lands which contain social, economic and environmental problems.

Legal Framework

The Political Constitution of El Salvador establishes that the International Conventions ratified by the country are secondary laws and these prevail on other laws when contradictions exist among them, therefore, they are mandatory. Besides, the Constitution establishes important provisions on environmental education, control of environmental conditions, rights of children and civil rights. Also the Environment Law and its General Regulation are in full operation, as well as the General Law of Fishing Activities, the Law of Conservation of Wild Life, the Forest Law and others which provide a legal framework for the effective implementation of the UNCCD in the country. Special measures do not exist to adapt the current legislation or to introduce new decrees to harmonize them with the principles of the UNCCD.

Participation Process

The participation process has started with the carrying out of two Raising Awareness Journeys to combat desertification, with the participation of sectors involved in the problem. The first Journey was carried out on 23-24 February 1998 in the Capital of El Salvador with an attendance of 98 people and the second in the city of La Unión (28-29 October 1999, attendance 55 people) in the East Zone. The resulting documents of both journeys were published, but it is necessary to make them available to local communities and they are basic inputs for the process of drawing up the NAP. It is considered that there are few barriers for the participation of women, since the gender approach has been spread in the country and certain awareness has been achieved. In June 1999, the Focal Point participated in activities organized during the annual celebrations of environment month, where Desertification Day is included (17 June). The information and communication activities were from person to person, radio interviews or talks to students in educational centres. The function of the Interinstitutional Committee of National Consultation of keeping informed other organisations has been initiated. There is the risk that people may lose interest and motivation when not having a continued follow-up of activities carried out.

Process of Consultation

The office of International Cooperation at MARN doesn't have projects related to desertification control with developed countries and other agencies. Therefore, there are no donor countries as yet. El Salvador is being favoured by the technical and financial support for environment coming from abroad and there exists potential available financing sources when negotiating funds for the implementation of the Convention to Combat Desertification. No consultation and harmonization process has begun for common actions among Central American countries. The only consultations have been at national level and no work has been done outside the frontiers of El Salvador.

Adopted measures

One of the purposes of the Journeys carried out was to begin with a raising awareness process on the causes and effects of the desertification phenomenon and droughts in the country caused by unsustainable human activities and climatic variations. Also, basic information was obtained in consensus on the current state of environmental degradation in El Salvador, which can be considered in the drawing up of the NAP in the near future. In such a sense, it can be said that the process of drawing up the NAP has already begun, although it has not been concluded. The Inter-Institutional Committee is planning and coordinating the holding in El Salvador of the Sixth Regional Meeting of Latin America and the Caribbean of the UNCCD in August 2000. At the moment, the country lacks specific programmes of technical scientific training on the phenomenon of desertification. It is considered that the local capacity has not been prioritized to implement the Convention. An investigation

programme is needed to concentrate on the desertification phenomenon and therefore, there are no concrete measures to increase the know-how on desertification and its control. A reason of weight that explains this situation is the lack of financial funds and of little use of the qualified human resources which exist in the country. Programmes coordinated with other Central and Latin American countries do not exist. At national level, the efforts concentrate on the capital San Salvador. No technical and scientific institutions exist at subregional, regional and international levels, which promote the issues of desertification and droughts. An important degree of responsibility is observed in the environmental NGOs, which develop projects with local communities. CESTA, as the Non-Governmental Focal Point has begun the process of drawing up an action plan to combat desertification in the East Zone and it has formed a regional team, located in the Usulután province, to assist the local environmental problems; its members will be responsible for the follow-up of the Convention in this zone. Also, a person responsible for the following up of the convention implementation has been appointed at a national level. Association agreements have not been reached with other countries of the Central American subregion, neither with other developed countries and other organizations involved in the implementation of the UNCCD.

Financial contributions

El Salvador has not yet been able to have access to public neither private financing to facilitate it to local actors. Local and international private potential sources of financing have not been explored and a National Fund to Combat Desertification has not been established or another specific account to implement the UNCCD. At government level, no decisions have been taken yet to determine a mechanism to guarantee the financing of the implementation of the UNCCD and pass to concrete actions to combat desertification and drought. Up to the present, no modalities of the diverse actors' participation in the financing and handling of activities to combat desertification have been set up. It has not been designed any strategy or plan for access to national or international funds with the purpose of counting on resources for the financing of the NAP. The operation of the Focal Point is possible thanks to the funds of the annual budget of the MARN. El Salvador has bilateral and multilateral relationships, which have been supporting diverse initiatives and social and environmental projects. Also, the country receives financing and multilateral technical assistance from international agencies that contribute in many environmental topics. None of these relationships has given technical-financial support directly as regards to control of desertification; however, the potential exists to negotiate and to receive support for the implementation of the UNCCD. Contacts have not been made with the Global Mechanism to request funds and therefore financial support has not been received to implement the Convention. To carry out the two Raising Awareness Journeys and the drawing up and consultation of the National Report a total of $11,000.00 was spent. The funds for these activities came from national and international sources. El Salvador has not yet formulated a plan to request technical cooperation from international agencies. The needs in technical assistance concerning the fight against desertification have not still been prioritized but the following are proposed: Technical-financial Cooperation for drawing up of the NAP, Programmes and integral projects to combat desertification, Projects to combat degradation of lands, Projects of energetical revegetation in areas affected by drought, Municipal Ordinances, Community Participation and of the private sector and others.

Revision of Indicators

El Salvador has not been able to define an appropriate methodology and a conceptual framework for the selection of indicators and parameters on desertification in the country; in order to measure and evaluate the progress achieved. In such a sense, El Salvador does not have the parameters and indicators for the programmes and projects on desertification. These will be

established in the process of drawing up the NAP and they would be used in the monitoring and evaluation. Due to the initial stage in the drawing up of the NAP, no analysis can be made of impacts of the desertification phenomenon in El Salvador.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The efforts made by El Salvador as regards implementation of the Convention of the United Nations to Combat Desertification have been few but significant, due specially to lack of financial resources of its own. Among these efforts stand out: the two Raising Awareness Journeys in 1998 and 1999, the operation of the Inter-Institutional Committee of National Consultation and the drawing up of the National Report. Some of the recommendations are: Strengthening the technical-financial capacity of the Organ of National Coordination (ONC), of the National Focal Point and of the Interinstitutional Committee of National Consultation, responsible of following up the implementation of the UNCCD in El Salvador. To continue and conclude the drawing up of the National Action Plan (NAP) of El Salvador and the implementation of the UNCCD, which requires specific funds. To negotiate the technical-financial assistance of national or international agencies to carry out the necessary studies and to qualify national personnel on the phenomenon of desertification. To improve intra and interinstitutional coordination and the promotion of community participation, establishing agreements. To plan the Third Raising Awareness Journey and to promote the UNCCD content more thoroughly at all levels.

## GRENADA

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

The objective of this report is to inform the Conference of the Parties on the situation of the country with regard to measures taken to implement the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) at the national level. Since signing the UNCCD in 1997, Grenada has done little to implement its objectives. This situation is the result of change in responsibilities of the initial Focal Point and general lack of information about the Convention.

As part of its obligations, Grenada is required to: give priority to combating desertification and mitigating the effects of drought and allocate adequate resources. Establish strategies and priorities within the framework of sustainable development plans and/or policies to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought. Address the underlying causes of desertification and pay attention to socio-economic factors contributing to desertification processes. Promote awareness to facilitate the participation of local populations in efforts to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought. Strengthening of appropriate existing relevant legislation, enacting new laws and establish long-term policies and action programmes.

Structure and Content of Report

A National Action Plan to Combat Desertification (NAPCD) will not be a component of this report. Grenada is just beginning to implement the Convention. More time is required to consolidate public involvement and participation in the planning, design and development of a National Action Plan.

The structure and content of this report is based, in part, on recommendations from the UNCCD Regional Advisor, who visited the country in March 2000, and not fully on the guidelines provided by the UNCCD secretariat for preparing National Reports.

Data collection

Two methods were used in gathering information contained in this report, consultation with individuals and review of several past and recent references. Discussions were held with several individuals in Government Ministries and Departments, non-governmental organizations, and environmentalists. Some of the references reviewed include the Grenada Environmental Profile, National Environmental Action Plan, and National Biodiversity Strategy and Action plan.

1.1 Definition of Terms

Desertification is defined as 'land degradation in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas, resulting from various factors, including climatic variations and human activities' (Article 1(f) of the Convention). It means, reduction or loss, in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas, of the biological and or economic productivity and complexity of rain-fed cropland, irrigated cropland, or range, pasture, forest and woodlands, resulting from land uses or from a process or combination of processes, including processes arising from human activities and habitation patterns such as:

- Soil erosion caused by wind and/or water
- Deterioration of the physical, chemical and biological or economic properties of soil and Long-term loss of natural vegetation

Background on Grenada and its Land Degradation Problems

Grenada is an island developing state, which is small, relatively isolated, with limited resources and diversity, ecologically fragile and economically vulnerable (Agenda 21). It is the largest of three main islands, which make up the nation of Grenada, the other two being Carriacou and Petit Martinique.

The climate of Grenada is humid-tropical-marine, with little seasonal or diurnal variation. It is influenced by a constant northeast trade wind. In the mountainous interior, annual rainfall range from 3,750-5,000 mm and in coastal areas between 990-1,500 mm. The population is 95,597. Owing to past migration, population pressure is not an immediate environmental concern.

Grenada's forests are classified as Cloud forest (Mountain Thicket, Palm Break and Elfin Woodlands), Rain Forests and Lower Montane Forest, Deciduous Seasonal Forests and Dry Woodlands, Littoral Woodlands (scrub and cactus), and Mangrove swamps (Beard 1949).

Agriculture plays a significant role in Grenada's economy as a source of income, export earnings and employment. Contribution to GDP in the 1990s averaged 9.1 per cent. In 1987-1989, very high prices for nutmeg and mace accounted for most of the increased earnings of the sector. Value contributions have been downward since 1989 due, not only to price declines (mostly for nutmeg, and to a lesser extent cocoa), but also to production deficiencies (banana and cocoa). A marked feature of the structure of agriculture in Grenada is the preponderance of small farms holdings less than five acres represent over 88 per cent of the number of farms but occupy 31 per cent of the cultivated acreage. Farms, 5-50 acres in 1981 represented 11 per cent of total holdings and 30 per cent of total acreage. Farms over 50 acres represent less than 1 per cent of total acreage. Grenada's agriculture is highly defined between export and domestic agriculture. Within export agriculture, there are the cocoa, banana and nutmeg sub-sectors. The output of 'other crops' are being affected by the following factors - the small size unit; scattered production; low level techniques; limited availability of planting space; scarcity and cost of labour; and praedial larceny.

Grenada's economy attained a favourable growth rate of 5.8 per cent in 1998, compared with a growth rate of 4.2 per cent and 2.9 per cent for the year 1997 and 1996 respectively. The Offshore Financial sector established in 1997, showed positive growth in 1998 and is expected to continue significantly to the economy in the medium term. The economic prospect for 1999 is for an expected growth rate of 6.1 per cent and 7 per cent in the year 2000. There is no national economic policy for Grenada; however, the present administration will implement a five-point strategy for growth, equity, and poverty eradication.

1.2 Land Degradation Problems

The small size of the island limits the area available for various land use types. The natural resource base is under extreme pressure from settlement, tourism development, infrastructure, agriculture and forestry. This competing demand for the limited land area, results in land use problems, which is manifested through, deforestation and loss of biodiversity, increased soil erosion, shortage of water, decreased agricultural productivity, and coastal erosion.

Soil erosion in Grenada is a problem. Ternan & Williams, 1989, indicated that soil erosion rates are already excessive, e.g. an estimated 700 tones/rear of soil is loss from the Annandale watershed. Soil erosion results mainly from clearing on slopes too steep for agriculture, removal of vegetation and farming too close to riverbanks, and removal of trees on roadsides. The problem is not as serious on Government owned lands as it is on private lands.

Private ownership characterized the land use tenure pattern in Grenada. One of the problems of private ownership is the lack of control, which Government has over land usage. The small size of farms encourages part-time farming with inappropriate and efficient soil-conservation practices, indiscriminate use of artificial fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides. Family-type ownership of land results in further fragmentation, which further contributes to inefficient land use.

Forest loss is due mainly to the clearing of land for the production of agricultural crops and settlement. In the south, housing development is the major threat to forest loss. Tourism has emerged as a lead growth sector, and has increased demand for land for tourism and housing.

Degradation of mangrove ecosystems on the coastline of Grenada results from various activities: indiscriminate felling of trees for firewood, charcoal production, clearing for construction purposes and dumping of solid and liquid waste.

Coastal erosion is a serious problem and results from both natural and human activities. Erosion of beeches in the north and southwest of the island is most noticeable. Extensive sand mining has contributed to serious erosion at Grand Mal, Beausejour, Palmiste, Conference, Levera and Telescape beaches. The impact of the waves from 'Hurricane Lennie' caused tremendous damage to the coastlines of Grenada, Carriacou and Petit Martinique, damaging roads, buildings, and eroding soil.

Underlying Causes of Land Degradation

The visible symptoms of land degradation in Grenada is a manifestation of underlying causes, which include: lack of a land-use policy, lack of an agricultural policy, lack of coordination of land management Institutions, inadequate capacity of land management institutions, lack of enforcement of regulations and lack of public awareness.

There is no official national land-use policy or agricultural policy in Grenada, although the Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Forestry and Fisheries

(MOALFF) made several efforts to produce and implement one. The most recent development of a sector policy and strategic plan was by the Forestry Department in 1999.

The weak institutional base for land-use management adds to the problem of land degradation. The existence of linkages, in planning and management, among institutions involved in natural resources management is weak.

Environmental legislation is outdated and hardly enforced and public awareness on environmental issue are periodic and usually the component of an externally funded project.

National Plans and strategies

The Government of Grenada, Carriacou and Petit Martinique (GOGCP) has been implementing initiatives to address environmental problems. A Country Environmental Profile was developed for (GOGCP) in 1992. The document addresses the environmental problems, constraints, and the policy directions. In 1993, a National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP) was prepared for GOGCP. The environmental priorities as outlined in the NEAP are; solid waste management, water supply and liquid waste management, land-use management, coastal zone management, water pollution, forestry and protected areas and natural hazards.

Grenada participated in the FAO Tropical Forests Action Plan (TFAP) during the 1990s. The Forestry Department, in Agriculture, Lands, Forestry and Fisheries MOALFF), coordinated the exercise, which resulted in the development of a National Forest Action Programme (NAFAP) for Grenada.

The Government also commissioned the development of National Physical Development Plans (NFDP) for Grenada, Carriacou and Petit Martinique. The plans are intended to provide a framework for rational Utilization of the finite land resource to minimize adverse effects of socio-economic development on terrestrial, marine and atmospheric environments.

Other Plans and Strategies

Both Government and non-government institutions are currently implementing programmes, which will contribute to reducing land degradation. Some of these initiatives are listed below:

- Natural Resources Information and Management Systems Project (1994-1995);
- Rehabilitation and Strengthening of Agricultural Production and support Systems;
- OECS Agricultural Crop Diversification Project;
- Forestry Department Forest Management on Public lands Project for Grenada;
- Integrated Land Use and Forest Management Project for Carriacou;
- Establishment of a bird sanctuary at Perseverance, and a National Park at Mt. Hatman;
- OECS/NRMU Marine and Protected areas project;
- Ministry of Tourism Master Plan;
- OECS Solid and Ship generated waste Management Project;
- Base line Community Survey to assess Poverty;
- Water of Life Community Environmental Project.

National Plans and Strategies developed before the UNCCD

Several other strategies and plans were implemented Grenada, Carriacou and Petit Martinique (GCPM) before the UNCCD. These include the Physical Development Strategy, Country and Town Planning Act and Plan for of System of National Parks and Protected Areas.

National Coordination Bodies

The Government appointed National Sustainable Development Council (NSDC) and a National Steering Committee (NSC) are responsible for implementation of the UNCCD in Grenada. The NSC was commissioned by the NSDC to plan and coordinate the implementation. The focal point will work with the NSC in preparing Grenada's National Action Plan to combat land degradation.

Institutions involved in Land Management

I.2.1. The Responsibility for land use management in Grenada is dispersed among several Departments in Government Ministries: They are the Land Use Division, Lands and Surveys, Forestry and National Parks the Ministry of Health and the Environment, the National Water and Sewage Authority (NAWASA), the National Housing Authority, the Industrial Development Corporation; the Ministry of Communication and Works, and the Grenada Ports Authority

An overall assessment of these institutions reveals that there is lack of long term planning, lack of coordination in planning between departments, untrained staff, and ill defined responsibilities without clear guidance about functional relationships between agencies. No measures have yet been taken to strengthen these institutions at the local and national level to combat land degradation.

Analysis of legislation on environment and related fields

There are several legislation which are related to the environment. Some of the principal ones include:

- The Forest, Soil and Water Conservation Act, Cap. 116 (1949);
- National Parks and Protected Areas Act, Cap. 206 (1990);
- Grand Etang Forest Reserve Act, Cap. 124 (1906);
- Birds and Other Wildlife (Protection) Act, Cap.34. (1957);
- National Water and Sewage Authority Act, Cap. 208 (1991);
- Land Development Control Act, Cap. 160 (1968);
- Town and Country Planning Act, Cap. 322 (1946);
- Prohibition of Birds Exportation Act (1991);
- Noxious Weeds Act, Cap. 213 (1912);
- Protection from Disease (Plants) Act, Cap. 258 (1925);
- Land Settlement Act, Cap. 161 (1933);
- Carriacou Land Settlement and Development Act, Cap. 42 (1955);
- National Trust Act, Cap. 207 (1967);
- Public Health Act, Cap. 263. (1925);
- Slum Clearance and Housing Act, Cap. 306 (1946);
- Crown Proceedings Act, Cap. 74 (1959).

Measures to adapt current legislation or introduce new enactments

The effectiveness of environmental legislation is hindered by three factors, they are outdated, not enforced and there is little public knowledge of their existence. The Forestry Department recently coordinated a review of the Forestry and related legislation in terms of their status and deficiencies. Redrafting of New Forest legislation is expected to occur.

Financial Resources

Grenada does no have the financial resources to develop and later, implement its National Action Plan to combat land degradation. In accordance with Article 20 and 21 of the Convention, Grenada will make the effort to ensure that financial resources are available for development of an Action Plan and Programmes to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought.

Planned Strategies for the Development of a NAPCD

The National Steering Committee during its first meeting on 29 March 2000 drew up strategies for the development of an action plan to combat land degradation:

- Launching of an awareness programme to sensitize the public about desertification and drought;
- Establish partnerships with Land Users, Local Communities, Local Authorities;
- Government Institutions, NGOs and the Private Sector, which are engaged in or are affected by land-use management and water resources in identifying, problems, constraints and solutions;
- Establish linkages with relevant local institutions and other related initiatives to avoid duplication of effort;
- Establish partnerships with regional and international Agencies in support of the Convention to procure technical and financial assistance to developing and implementing an Action Programme to combat desertification and drought.

Some of the issues that will be addressed in the NAPCD include the following:

- Attain political awareness and support;
- Development of policies for land use and management;
- Review of existing legislation governing land use and management;
- Strengthening of appropriate institutions;
- Establishment of networks to combating land degradation;
- Development of a comprehensive Information Systems for land degradation;
- Establishment and strengthening and Early Warning Systems for land degradation;
- Expanding and Improving Education and Training;
- Promoting Public Awareness of the effects of land degradation;
- Promotion of research and extension;
- Promotion of conservation technologies;
- Formation of emergency plans to deal with the effects of drought;
- Sustainable management of forest resources;
- Food security and sustainable development and management of agricultural resources;
- Conservation and sustainable us of Biodiversity;
- Integration of land degradation programmes in national agricultural and forestry plan.

In accordance with Article 20 and 21 of the Convention, Grenada will make the effort to ensure that financial resources are available for the implementation of the NAPCD and mitigate the effects of drought. Financial support (from UNCCD/UNDP) for the preparation of the NAPCD has recently been received. No other sources of funding have yet been identified.

**GUATEMALA**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

I. STRATEGIES AND PRIORITIES ESTABLISHED INSIDE THE CONTEXT OF THE PLANS AND/OR POLITICAL OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The National Environmental Management was framed in the proposals defined by National Agenda 21, Central American Alliance for Sustainable Development, National Environmental Action Plan, the Peace Agreements undersigned 1,996 and the Environmental National Politics.

The National Agenda 21:

Generally it defines to reach the following purposes: 1. To strengthen bases that promote the implementation of a model of sustainable development, articulating the economic scenes, social, politician, cultural and environmental. 2. To Incorporate the environmental component in national plans, programmes and into project with a multisectoral interpretation. 3. To strengthen the participation and the capacities of management of the governmental entities, non-governmental and local municipal organizations in the process toward the sustainable development. 4. To prevent and mitigate the environmental contamination in all the manifestations.

On the other hand, it is planning the following strategic elements for implementation: 1. Identification of actors and groups of interest in specific problems that affect the environment and sustainable development. 2. Analysis of national problematic in multisectoral manner and participates to identify priority areas at regional and local level. 3. Formulation participatively of plans programmes and projects of short, medium and long term. 4. To incorporate both aspects in political of planning of the country. 5. To provide the general guides of action to strengthen the capacity of management of different actors of the society at national, regional, municipal and local levels.

The Central American Alliance for Sustainable Development

In 1994 the Central American Presidents approved the Central American Alliance for Sustainable Development that pursues to transform, with the complementary support of the international community, to the region in a model of sustainable development for all the planet. A region where the respect to the life in all the manifestations, the permanent improvement of the quality of life, the respect to the vitality and diversity of our earth, the peace, the democracy participates, the respect to the cultural diversity of the towns of the Central American area, are the principles that regal the future.

One of bases of the Central American Alliance for Sustainable Development constitutes the sustainable management of the natural resources and improved the environmental quality. The depletion and deterioration of the base renovates the natural resources is a problem for the future development in Central America. The contamination of the water, the air and the land have increment rapidly in the region and probably continues if no guide the current processes of development and industrialization. The principal threat radiates in the loss of forests and the decrease and deterioration of the wealthy and quality of the water, what to the time is one of the cause principals of sickness and death over in the populations. The consumption of assets and services implicated the use of resources of all type, marginal.

The Environmental National Action Plan

The Environmental Action Plan was elaborated in 1995, with the vision of formulating plans, programmes and to project that involve to all the population in order to propitiousing the interrelation of the management of the natural resources and the coherent environment with the development economic and social. Identified as principals both problems the following:

1) Damage of the land natural resources: deforestation, deterioration of the soil resource, reduction of hydric resources and loss of the biodiversity;

2) Damage of the marine-coastal resources: About exploitation and disorderly exploitation of the fished resource, loss of the mangrove and contamination of the water in the region of production coastal-marine.

The Peace Agreements

Three agreements are mentioned with major protagonists of the natural resources and the environment, these are:

a) Agreement for the resettlement of uprooted populations by the armed confrontation.

This agreement mentions from the fixation of the principles the sustainable development, sustainable and equitable, refer to the criteria for the selection of lands: to the potential agro-ecological, price, sustainability of the natural resources reindeers and existing services. These criteria relate specifically to the production with the sustainable management of the resources.

In relation to the execution of the projects also combine aspects related to the agricultural sustainable development, the territorial settlement, the utilization of the natural resources in function of the potential to title and rights about the land and the water, use and planning of the natural resources, and infrastructure of sanitation.

b) Agreement on the identity and right of the indigenous towns

In this agreement strengthen and enlarge the related aspects with the ambiance and the natural resources, in it related to the science and the technology mention the need of promoting technological innovation and the ethical principle of conservation of the environment. Referring to the land, it is contemplated the need of administering of sustainable manner the natural resources that of the land depend on a proper conception of the indigenous population.

c) Agreement on socioeconomic aspects and agrarian situation

It is the agreement where mention with major insistence the related aspects with the environment and the natural resources, from a principle mention the need of promoting an integral strategy that includes: Possession of the land, use of the renovable natural resources, systems and mechanism of credit, processing and commercialization; legislation agrarian and juridical security and labour relations; technique attendance and training; sustainability of the natural resources and organization of the rural population.

As soon as to tne fund of lands, is planning the promotion of the access to the property and sustainable use of the natural resources. Furthermore the development of plans of territorial settlement and the application of criteria of economic and environmental sustainability. It is planned the creation of and environmental agrarian jurisdiction within the judicial organism, by means of the emission of a corresponding law.

In relation to the access of the natural resources it is planning that for 1,999 must have granted to little and legally median organized peasants, in concessions the management of 100,000 hectare distribute them between protected areas, ecotourism, protection of fountains of water and other compatible activities with the potential and sustainable use of the natural resources.

Also establish the promotion and support to the private sector and communitary organizations of basing in projects of management and conservation of natural resources through incentives, direct localized subsidies or mechanisms of funding in conditions brandishing and point to the search of the international cooperation.

From this frame indicator of different guides that in matter of environment and natural resources must to be observed in the search of a model of sustainable coherent development with the economic and social development of

the country, has planned and in some cases implementing political, strategies, plans and following programmes:

1. Agrarian and Sectorial Politics (1998-2030)

It establishes as general objective "to contribute to the improvement of the quality of life of the rural population that depended direct and indirectly of the agriculture and the natural resources, that permit to revalue the life in the field, the advance toward equity, the equalized development of the regions of the country and the decrease of the structural heterogeneousness that is the expression of the underdevelopment and poverty".

2. Forest Politics of Guatemala

It is proposed as general objective "to increase the socioeconomic benefits of the goods and generated services in the forest ecosystems and to contribute to the territorial settlement in rural lands, through the promotion of the productive management and of the conservation of the base of natural resources, with emphasis in forest and associated resources as the biodiversity, the water and soils; incorporating increasingly the forest activity to the economy of the country in benefit of the Guatemalan society".

3. National Politics for the development of the Guatemalan System of Protected Areas Protected (SIGAP)

Which is defined as "The description of the group of principles, objectives, legal and institutional frame, lines of politics, instruments and desired situation, that State might declare, with the purpose of guaranteeing the provision of goods and services and the conservation of the biological diversity for the social and economic welfare of the settlers".

4. Environmental National Politics

It is proposed as central objective, to improve the quality of the environment and to manage adequately the natural resources of the country, inside of a frame of equitable and sustainable global development, in order to help to improve the quality of life of the Guatemalan population.

Sectorial Environmental Politicals for sectors: Agriculture, Industry, Commerce, Tourism, Petroleum and Natural Gas.

Transectorials: Biodiversity, Climate Change, Desertification, (in consultant process with diverse sectors): Waste, Air Water, Energy.

5. National Strategies for:

Biodiversity, Climate Change, Prevention and Control of Forest Fires.

6. Hydrobiological Action Plan

It is important to observe, that the term Desertification does not appears considerate as such in the context mentioned; however, the concepts and principles of the prevention, mitigation and to control of the exhaustion and the degradation of the natural resources, principally the water, the soil and the forest are considered of prior in different instruments mentioned before.

## II. INSTITUTIONAL MEASURES ADOPTED FOR IMPLEMENTATION THE CONVENTION

Starting from its participation in the First Regional Meeting for Latin America on Desertification and Drought held in Buenos Aires, Argentina in February 1996, Guatemala begins the process of analysis, discussion and definition of some actions focused to the combat Desertification and the

negative effects to the hydric resource and to the environment in general. At the same time are begun the steps established in the legal procedure for the subscription and adhesion of the country to the Conference of the Parties, which were achieved in April 1999.

The adhesion of Guatemala to the Conference of the Parties implicates the responsibility of the State toward the execution of the established in the same. Like first step is delegated to the National Commission of the Environment (CONAMA, entity state clerk directly of the Presidency of the Republic) like focal point of the country in front of the Convention, reporting it officially to the Executive Secretariat this national decision.

Inside the CONAMA organization, has delegated to the staff of professionals of technical attendance (instantance of direct advisor to the National Coordinator, the attention and accompaniment of Conventions of Desertification, Climate Change and Biodiversity. So in this manner, the CONAMA has assumed the role of National Coordinator Agency for the implementation of Convention of Desertification, putting to disposition the human resources, material and necessary equipment for the good fulfill.

Institutionally has an annual budget distributed as follows:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Human Resources: | Q 3,700,000.00 | US $ 47,435.00 |
| Material and Institutional Equipment: | Q 8,300,000.00 | US $ 1,064,102.00 |
| TOTAL: | Q 12,000,000.00 | US $ 1,538,400.00 |

As has manifested since the beginning of the present report, The Programme of National Action to Combat Desertification, has not been adopted yet officially by the government of Guatemala as a priority component of the agenda. It is important to motion that as such Convention, as same as of Climate Change other agreements and international treaties are relatively new initiatives in the concept and focus why the process of implementation has initiated with actions of information to diverse actors of the society. However, exist similar initiatives that have undertaken as by as non-governmental and governmental organizations on the plans and work programmes.

Must to be mentioned, that of the budget of the State, assigned for the functionality of CONAMA, has not assigned a specific departure for a national programme to combat Desertification. Even though has proposed the assignment of this departure for the budget of the year 2001 in forward.

## III. PARTICIPATIVE PROCESS TO SUPPORT THE PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL ACTION PROGRAMMES

The process of implementation of Convention of Desertification, initiated in 1997 by means of First National Encounter realized in Northwest and Northeast Regions of the country. This encounter had as fundamental purpose, to identify the principals causes and the effects of the degradation of the soil, concluding in that the causes of this phenomenon have the origin in the social aspects, economic and cultural, whose effects influence directly in the environmental deterioration and to the increment of the poverty. At the same time the results of this national encounter served of base to propose to the current governmental authorities the criteria for the formulation of political and national strategies to combat Desertification and mitigation of the effects of Drought.

The citizen participation, is an established commitment by means of the subscription of the Peace Agreements. Nevertheless, the process participate is still incipient, first by the fear of public expression that let the 36 years of the armed internal conflict and later by the lack of organization in the

expression and proposal of the civil society, before the daily proposals of the government.

In Guatemala the communitary participation is not a new matter, since 1945 constitute legally the committees of communitary development with a focus of support to the management of the central government and the municipal governments, however these never have had an outstanding paper before proposed of both governments, turning them only in manager of conjuncture communitary actions, for example in the organization of festive days, organization of religious events, community vigilance before incidental problems, etc.

Actually in Guatemalan society, the woman plays an important paper in profit and management of the natural resources, as well as in the national economy; however, the role is not completely recognized, inclusive by the same woman. This has a direct relation with the cultural and social proper pattern of the country; since for historic the man is who had developed the economic activity, and his male conduct has relegated to the woman to a second place. Actually the woman has recovered some spacious of participation in the national life, principally in the politician aspect what has created a climate hopefully for a focus of equality of opportunities for women and men. This of course, also will transcend in the efforts of incorporating focus of type in different initiatives and national commitments, as the implementation of different Conventions, between them of desertification.

The participative focus are effective always that the communitary count with a transparent and truthful information about the problems that affect them; at the same time, the participation must create demand and disposition in the definition of proposed serious and viable.

In spite of not to be duly implemented the National System of Environmental Information (SINIA), some concrete actions have come developing, such is the case of to divulge of some political, strategies, laws, rules, etc. related with the environmental management and the natural resources. However, by the characteristics of nation pluricultural, pluriethnic, and multilanguage, in Guatemala is not so easy to design a strategy of divulging and/or general communication without taking in these consideration particularities of the country.

In the proposals of (SINIA), is considered extremely important to conform of database, no only of both aspects, but also of inventories and diagnoses of the natural resource for a certain definition of the national accounts of the environmental and cultural patrimony of the country.

## IV. PROCESS OF CONSULT IN SUPPORT TO THE PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL ACTION PROGRAMMES AND OF AGREEMENTS OF ASSOCIATION WITH THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES PARTIES AND OTHER ENTITIES

As mentioned before, the process of implementation of Convention of Desertification initiate with the first national encounter in the Northwest and Northeast regions of the country, where are presented the major problems of the phenomenon. In this encounter, besides identifying the causes and effects of the desertification, was planning the urgent needs executing actions to detain the accelerated depletion of the lands of those regions.

In spite of the problem is patented at simple sight, this must be tackled in the frame of a national politics, with different strategies of implementation, and no with remoted mitigating actions and to control. In the agenda of the current government, the theme has gone turning importance in a slow manner due to problems of major importance that according to this must to be resolved with priority.

On the other hand, the international cooperation at technical support, economic and financial level, might seem no to consider it neither in the priorities. In multiple occasions have done proposals to organisms, such as bilateral and multilateral in search of support, but up to date any results have obtained about this.

It is important to mention the support that Secretariat of Convention has offered to the national counterpart, as for the ratification as for the execution of the national encounter, and the elaboration of this national report. Attitude that not have assumed the parts or development countries members of Convention, in spite of being established as an agreement inside of the same.

In the efforts of implementation of the commitments amanated from the peace agreements undersigned on 1996 in which the recuperation of soils and degraded lands and subutilized or es, form important part, concrete actions to the respect have been planned, such is the case of the request of support proposed to the countries friends (Sweden, Norway, Spain, France, Canada and United States of America), for the protection of the basins as units of production and alimentary subsistence.

Separately the National Commission of the Environment, (CONAMA), has initiated negotiations with international organisms for the support of the management in environmental matter in which undoubtedly will be given full importance to the protection and conservation of the natural resources, principally the water, the soils and the forest.

With the purpose to promote a process of self-management, actually is working in order to conform of committees and communitary and voluntary groups for the prevention, recuperation and conservation of productive degraded areas by causes of the hydric and eolic erosion, the protection of the fountains of water and the reforestation. This initiative is carry out in coordination with municipal government and the urban and rural development departmental and regional councils.

In synthesis, has not obtained yet, the cooperation of developed countries parts, such as established in the Convention, surely because neither has proposed of punctual manner the problem in the framework of a national politics, with concrete actions from the concept of the desertification.

## V. ADOPTED OR PLANNED MEASURES INSIDE OF THE CONTEXT OF NATIONAL ACTION PROGRAMMES, INCLUDING MEASURES TO PROMOTE ENVIRONMENT ECONOMIZED, TO CONSERVE NATURAL RESOURCES, TO PROMOTE INSTITUTIONAL ORGANIZATION, INCREASE THE KNOWLEDGE ABOUT DESERTIFICATION AND CONTROL FOR LABOURS OF FOLLOWING UP AND EVALUATION OF DESERTIFICATION AND DROUGHT

Upon analysing the problem of the desertification, it is necessary to consider that in the dynamics of the phenomenon, the social and economic factors have a meaningful incidence. It is probably, in the case of the problems related with the desertification, where is more evident the incidence of said factors.

Nowadays, it is recognized, that exists a clear association between situations of poverty, but yet extreme poverty, and conditions of desertification; exist evidence clear of it in, practically all the areas of the country, affected by the phenomenon of the desertification in different degrees and magnitudes. In the context of this association is that dynamic a vicious circle poverty-degradation environment-poverty, the poverty as cause and consequence of the deterioration of the natural resources.

Exist high population concentrations in relatively rural little areas, facilitating a progressive degradation of the natural resources of same areas. This situation has unchained a group of subprocesses with environmental negative impacts, migration to the cities pressuring over areas of ecological severe risk, exploitation of fragile ecosystems with surcharged demographic and deforestation enlarging the agrarian frontier.

There is in consequence a social and economic pressure over the natural resources which destruction or deterioration leads to the desertification, though the majority of the Guatemalan population, recognized and this is conscious, that to alleviate such pressure and to detain, and possibly, to revert the situations of degradation, is necessary to adopt a model of economic and social equalized and compatible development with the environmental protection; however, situations of economic and social crisis, determine priorities, that currently, favour the achievement of benefits at short term, favouring the persistence of processes of environmental transformation negative.

Some aspects of direct incidence in the desertification, according to the results of the national encounter on the theme are following: Social pressure on the land (property and tenure, availability of lands), utilization of firewood as only fountain of combustion in rural areas and urban marginal areas (massive deforestation), change of use of the land to (of agricultural or forest to cattle), overpopulation, etc.

Guatemala has experienced very few advanced meaningful in matter to combat the desertification and the drought specifically; since the political, strategies, plans, programmes and to project that of global manner and/or of separated manner have formulated in the search of a model of sustainable development for the country, not have considerate this variable as parts important to structure and operativeity. The academic entities and of investigation, as governmental as non-governmental, do not incorporate yet in the programmes and pensum of studies the theme, so that these studies serve as point of departure for the formulation of political, strategies and actions tending to the prevention and to control of the problem.

Some initiatives that have proposed up to date such the case of the Action Plan for the Forest, Action Plan for the Environment, Programme of Agricultural Development, etc. To guide the propositive actions to the conservation of the natural resources water, soil, forest, of manner individualized. It has lack a perspective of group, integrating, that considers the new conceptions of the sustainable development (economic growth, social equity and environmental conservation) and incorporates from a vision of nation the alternatives of solution to problematic given.

On the other hand, have promulgated legal texts that believe in normative instruments and also, economic, oriented to the conservation or development of the renovable natural resources to (soils, vegetation, continental waters, etc.). However, are limited or very scarce the successful results that, objectively, could to be attributed to the majority of plans, programmes and to project executed, to equal thing can be told respect to the results of the application of normative bodies and economic instruments for the management of the natural resources.

Taking as premise the prior proposals, has suggested to the current authorities of government to adopt a group of criteria over the which must to be based the operative schemes for the formulation and implementation of political and national strategies to combat the desertification and mitigation of the drought, these being:

1. To Structure of Nation Programmes of Action to combat Desertification;

2. Compatibility of political and national strategies of environment and natural resources with problematic derived of Desertification;

3. To Incorporate of economic instruments;

4. Evaluation of the phenomenon of the desertification and agroecological and socioeconomic zonification;

5. Creation and/or to consolidate of decentralized schemes and participative of management;

6. Adoption of a institutional frame for the execution of programmes of action to combat the desertification;

7. Formulation of guided programmes to the nucleus of desertification;

8. To Delimit spatial of proposals;

9. Creation of mechanisms for the technical support and financier of the national strategy to combat the desertification;

10. Implementation of the national system of environmental information.

It is necessary to mention, that since 1997 year in that was held the first meeting of the subregion (Central America, Mexico and Caribbean) in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, and later in March 1998 In Guatemala City, has come proposing the need of coordinating actions to level of the subregion. However, has not achieved to concrete these ideas, by a side, because in the majority of the countries members of the subregion, still has not implemented the programmes of national action, and by other side because apparently to governments of these countries still not achieve to value the problematic existing for prioress in the contents of the agendas of work.

In view of the above-mentioned, it is indispensable to socialize with many most aggressiveity Convention to level of takers of national decision, and penetrate the contents in the instances of subregional coordination as Central American Commission of Environment and Development- CCAD-, Central American Bank of Economic Integration- BCIE-, etc. At the same time, it is necessary to promote a third subregional encounter for making compatible the problematic and interests of the same, identified by means of respective national reports, and to formulate a subregional plan in agreement with the realities of this, which could be appropriate by the governments of the subregion.

## VI. FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS OF NATIONAL BUDGETS TO SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION, AS WELL AS FINANCIAL ATTENDANCE AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION, INCLUDING AFFLUENCY PROCESSES TO IDENTIFY REQUIREMENTS, FINANCING AREAS AND ESTABLISHMENT OF PRIORITIES

As is presented in the report, the Government of Guatemala still has not assumed of official manner in the agenda the theme of Desertification, consequently no assigns a budget for the implementation and operativity. On the other hand the external cooperation does not manifests full interest in supporting the actions tending to the prevention and/or mitigation of the effects of Desertification, possibly because has not done a concrete proposal of the problem.

Of equal manner, the parts that are developed countries neither have pronounced or shown their will of supporting technique and financially to the developing countries, such as establish in the text of Convention.

In 1999 CONAMA, owing to a diagnosis of the national and international cooperation, identified different scenes to part the which will be developed the

strategy of cooperation. Between the aspects most important of this panorama cite:

1. The manner how has managed the cooperation;
2. The agreements undersigned;
3. The affectivity and operativity of the agreements undersigned;
4. Why is necessary to define a national strategy for the cooperation;
5. Objectives to reach with the cooperation;
6. The lines of cooperation (scientific, technique, financial);
7. Instances and local entities of cooperation;
8. Entities and International Organisms with who has experience in the cooperation;
9. Entities and international organisms suggested to establish cooperation.

## VII. REVISION OF POINTS OF REFERENCE AND UTILIZED INDICATORS TO MEASURE THE PROGRESSES AND EVALUATION OF SAME

As much as the National Plan for the Environment, as Environmental National Politics in the proposal value of meaningful manner the permanent evaluation of the indicators and instruments of implementation of a mark of reference. In this sense, in the context define following indicators and instruments:

1. Indicators:

a. Modernization of the management of protected areas and conservation of the biological wealth of the country;

b. Restoration and conservation of the soil and utilization of the forest resources, to improve the management in benefit of diverse regions of the national territory;

c. Integral management of the water, promoting the efficient use and sanitation;

d. Protection of the oceans and utilization rational of the resources, as well as to modernize the fished activities and related to water;

e. Improvement of the quality of the air, specially in the urban zones to protect the health of the inhabitants;

f. Rational ecological management of the solid and dangerous ecological wastes;

g. Ecological territorial settlement, to control and norm the use of the earth and the resources in a frame of certitude and knowledge for the possessors.

2. Instruments:

a. Instruments to fixed environment conditions;
b. preventive Instruments;
c. correctional Instruments.

These have as purpose to correct situations that are contributing to that the both standards are to point of being, or have been known.

Also here the plans of destined conservation to insure the capacity of regeneration and the biological diversity associated to the use and profit the natural resources. These plans of management include, between other, following both considerations: (a) maintenance of wealthy of water and conservation of

soils; (b) maintenance of the landscape value; and (c) protection of species in danger of extinction, vulnerable, rare or insufficiently known.

d. Instruments of fulfilment;
e. Instruments economic;
f. Instruments of education and investigation;
g. Instruments of the citizen participation;
h. Instruments for the generation of information;
i. Instruments of financing.

In the frame of the environmental national legislation, established two fundamental mandates for the implementation of the mechanisms of evaluation and control of the degradation and/or deterioration of the natural resources, being these:

a) The obligation of presenting a study of evaluation of environmental impacts by part of interested, for the development of any productive activity;

b) It is conceded popular action to denounce before the authority, all done, act and omission that generates contamination and deterioration or loss of natural resources or that affects the levels of quality of life. If in the locality no exist representatives of National Commission of the Environment, the denunciation could do before the municipal authority, that will remit for the attention and procedure to the group of mention commission.

In the search of an authenticated representation and participation of the actors of the Guatemalan society in the development of the national environmental management, doing efforts by implementing a mechanism of institutional coordination and sector by means of the creation of the National System of Environmental Management (SINGA). This mechanism of coordination base in to conform of National Councils integrated by representatives of different sectors, establishing in forums of expression and debate in different areas and levels.

The SINGA, has represented, though of incipient manner the best mechanism of coordination, and proposal of the most serious alternatives of solution to national environmental problematic. This mechanism bases the operativeity in the coordination with the government through CONAMA, and the materialization of the respective actions through of to municipal governments.

## GUYANA

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Desertification is the degradation of land caused primarily by human activities and climate variations which will eventually lead to the reduction or loss in its biological or economic productivity. Over 250 million people are directly affected by desertification, and some one billion people in over one hundred countries may experience its economic, social and environmental consequences.

The international community has long recognized that desertification is a serious threat to many countries of the world and in an effort to address this problem the Conference on Desertification in 1977 adopted a Plan of Action to Combat Desertification (PACD). In 1992, when the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) convened in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, the question of how to deal with the issues of land degradation was on the agenda, since it was still of serious concern to most countries of the world. The Conference, therefore, requested the General Assembly of the United Nations to prepare by June 1994, a Convention to Combat Desertification. As a result, the UNCCD came into force in December 1996. Guyana became a Party of the Convention upon its ratification on 24 September 1997.

The implementation of the UNCCD is coordinated by the National Climate Committee, functioning as the National Coordinating Body (NCB). It has responsibility for coordinating all activities relating to climate change, ozone depletion and desertification and is comprised of representatives of the main institutions dealing with these issues. The NCB operates under the purview of the Office of the President. The President of Guyana has the mandate for environmental issues including climate change and desertification. The Office of the Adviser to the President on Science, Technology and Environment is the National Focal Point and is responsible for coordinating the preparation of the National Report.

Guyana, richly endowed with natural resources, is dominated by its forests, mostly tropical moist evergreen rainforests, covering over 75 per cent of the country's 215,000 square kilometres and which constitute a very significant resource not only for this country but also for the world. The forests constitute a part of the Amazon Basin, and contain a wealth of biological diversity including several unique species and 14% recorded endangered wildlife species. The abundant natural resources include substantial mineral deposits notably bauxite, gold and diamonds. These timber and mineral resources existing within the interior of the country are highly extensive in nature, and to a great extent inaccessible because of undeveloped infrastructure.

In 1998, the Government of Guyana articulated and implemented the Economic Recovery Programme after a protracted economic decline in the 1970s and 1980s, accompanied by an intensification of poverty in society. The main strategy based on a major change in the economic policy was to create favourable investment opportunities for the private sector to utilize the country's natural resources. The new Government of 1992 embarked on a major expansion programme in the agriculture, forestry and mineral sectors and a rehabilitation of the infrastructure to support this programme, which has been pursued within the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication.

The increase in activities in the agricultural and natural resource sectors without effective regulatory and monitoring mechanisms, can lead to unsustainable practices such as over harvesting of timber resources or over utilization of components of biodiversity, which have long-term destructive potential and can inevitably lead to land degradation. These activities also have implications for environmental management.

In 1994, the Government prepared an National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP) to identify the major environmental problems and to formulate appropriate policy measures to deal with these problems. The document identified the major environmental issues as coastal zone management, waste management and pollution control, natural resources management and mining. Land degradation has been identified with some of these environmental issues. The NEAP is currently being reviewed through a participatory process.

There are many institutions in the country that have some responsibility for environmental and natural resources management. In recognizing the need to have one single institution with responsibility for environmental management, the Government introduced a new legislation, the Environmental Protection Act No. 11 of 1996 to create the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The EPA has the legal mandate to provide for the management, conservation, protection and improvement of the environment, the assessment of the impact of economic development on the environment and the sustainable use of natural resources. Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) conducted for all major projects have to be approved by the EPA.

Although it is the general perception that land degradation is not a major environmental problem in Guyana, cognisance should be taken of land degradation activities and climate variability. It is, therefore, imperative for Guyana to

share experiences on land degradation and mitigating the effects of drought with other countries. In this regard, the UNCCD can be seen as the most appropriate mechanism for the exchange and sharing of information.

Since land degradation is not a priority issue, strategies to address it should be integrated into those designed to address issues of biodiversity, wildlife management, climate change, and coastal zone and natural resources management. In an effort to address these issues, the Government has been increasingly promoting participatory decision-making and a policy to conserve and sustainably utilize the country's natural resources in keeping with Guyana's commitment to international conventions, treaties and other relevant instruments. Policies, strategies, action programmes and laws are, therefore, being prepared and implemented for the sustainable utilization of natural resources and the maintenance of environmental quality, which can also support the implementation of the UNCCD.

The development of a draft National Development Strategy represents the highest level of national planning in the country. It is an integrated document outlining the national strategy and policy in a number of priority areas including agriculture, environment, forestry, fisheries, mining, tourism and the eradication of poverty. The Strategy serves as a framework for policy and planning in the respective sectors of the economy.

The National Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Guyana's Biodiversity was completed in 1997 through a participatory process, and articulates the national policy and strategy relating to the study, conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. The National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP) is a product of the National Strategy proposing a total of 32 projects and other activities under broad programme areas. The mobilization of financial and technical resources are critical to the implementation of the Action Plan. The EPA has also been given the legal mandate for the conservation and management of the country's biological diversity

In the forestry sector, the Guyana Forestry Commission has formulated a number of policies and plans to improve management and conservation of forest resources in order to contribute to sustainable development, optimum use of the land resources and conservation of biodiversity. The draft National Forest Plan of July 1998 takes into consideration the National Forest Policy of 1997, and proposes a range of activities under five broad programme areas including land use, forest management, research and information, forestry training and education, and forest administration and governance. Guidelines for the preparation of Forest Management Plans and a Code of Practice for Forest Operations have also been prepared by the Guyana Forestry Commission. The revised legislation governing forestry has been forwarded to the Cabinet Sub-Committee on Natural Resources and the Environment for reviewing before being presented to Cabinet.

A non-governmental organization, the Forest Producers Association, was formed by the forest industry to promote and develop the interests of the forest sector and to collaborate on activities such as training, information, public awareness and institutional development.

Forestry research focusing on sustainable forest management and the conservation of biodiversity are being undertaken by a number of institutions including the Tropenbos-Guyana Programme and the Iwokrama International Centre for Rainforest Conservation and Development.

In order to improve the management of Guyana's natural resources in a sustainable way, a Natural Resources Management Project (NRMP) commenced in 1994 under a Technical Cooperation Agreement between the Governments of Guyana and Germany.

The project is intended to support decision-making on natural resources management by supplying reliable and accurate information to national institutions. The project will develop a database on natural resources, establish land-use planning procedures, prepare policy guidelines and legislation for natural resources management and strengthening institutional capacity.

The main activity in the wildlife sector is harvesting for the export trade and local consumption as exotic meat. There has been no significant management of wildlife resources in the country. The Wildlife Division of the Office of the President which regulates the wildlife trade does not have the necessary capacity to function effectively. However, wildlife management and protection is now being initiated in the country. The World Wildlife Fund - Guianas Forests and Environmental Conservation Project (WWF-GFECP) is collaborating with the Marine Turtle Conservation Society of Guyana to study and monitor four species of marine turtles at Shell Beach in the Pomeroon. It is also funding a project on the development of a species management plan for wildlife trade in Guyana which is to be implemented by the EPA.

A draft fisheries Management and Development Plan for the period 1994-2004 has been prepared and is yet to be finalized. Fisheries resources utilization in Guyana is regulated under some four different pieces of legislation, all of which are outdated and inadequate. Revision of the existing legislation and finalization of the Fisheries Management and Development Plan will provide a strong basis for the management of fisheries resources.

In the mining sector, the major environmental impacts are pollution and land degradation. However, with the introduction of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), the initiation of public awareness programmes and regular monitoring by the Guyana Geology and Mines Commission and the Environmental Protection Agency, it is expected that environmental impacts will be minimized.

In the agriculture sector, the Ministry of Agriculture has a major responsibility in ensuring food security and efficient management of water resources for agricultural production. It has recently implemented the Land Administration Project which will effectively address the land tenure system in Guyana.

Financial resources required for the implementation of all sustainable development projects have been obtained from donor agencies, international financial institutions and through bilateral arrangements. The Government has also contributed significantly to these projects.

The NAP process will have to take into consideration relevant aspects of all the national policies and plans that focus on sustainable development and are related to the implementation of the UNCCD. The NCB will be responsible for coordinating the activities for the preparation and implementation of the National Action Programme (NAP). The NAP process will involve national awareness activities on land degradation and drought and collection of information on the utilization and management of natural resources, including land resources, especially by women and youths, projects considered relevant by local stakeholders and the use of traditional knowledge to combat land degradation.

The elaboration and implementation of the NAP which would require a substantial amount of financial and technical resources would necessitate that the Government seek assistance from international financial institutions including the Global Environment Facility, the Global Mechanism and the United Nations Development Programme.

**HAÏTI**

RESUME DU PREMIER RAPPORT NATIONAL SUR LA LUTTE CONTRE LA DESERTIFICATION

1. INTRODUCTION

Par ses traits physiques tels qu'ils sont présentés par les géographes et les géologues, sa situation géographique dans l'Archipel des Antilles, son climat, sa superficie et la remarquable explosion démographique qui la caractérisent, la République d'Haïti si l'on voulait empêcher sa disparition de la carte du monde, devrait être classée en grande partie comme un site protégé.

1.1. Situation géographique et superficie

Située entre la mer des Caraïbes et l'Océan Atlantique, Haïti occupe le tiers du territoire avec une superficie de 27.750 km$^2$. La séparation de l'île en deux Républiques eut lieu en 1696. Haïti est ainsi situé dans la partie occidentale et la République Dominicaine dans la partie orientale. Elle couvre une superficie de 48.734 km$^2$. Le littoral de la République d'Haïti est d'environ 1.500 km de côtes. Le territoire est formé de cinq petites îles adjacentes d'une superficie de 950 km$^2$. Le quart de son étendue est constitué par des plaines (altitude inférieure à 200 mètres). Plus d'un tiers du territoire se situe entre 200 et 500 mètres et 40 % au-dessus de 500 mètres, 17 % sont de plus 800 mètres d'altitude.

1.2. Climatologie

La République d'Haïti jouit d'un climat varié, marqué parfois par de grandes sécheresses, des cyclones et des périodes d'inondation. Au cours de la fin du 20ème siècle elle fut frappée par plusieurs catastrophes naturelles dont les plus importantes ont été les suivantes: les cyclones Hazel en 1954, Ella en 1958 et toute la série des catastrophes atmosphériques qui se sont abattues sur le pays entre les années 1963 et 1967; 1977 à 1999. La pluviométrie, répartie en moyenne annuelle, est de l'ordre de 1400 mm. L'année est généralement divisée en quatre saisons: le printemps et l'automne qui correspondent à la saison des pluies, l'été et l'hiver à la saison sèche. Haïti est affecté par la sécheresse en moyenne une année sur cinq. C'est un pays subtropical d'une température moyenne annuelle de 24 à 28 degrés dont l'amplitude thermique diurne se situe entre 8 et 12 degrés. La température maximum constatée sur un grand nombre d'année a été de 37,8 degrés C et la température minimum de 15,2 degrés.

2. LES STRATEGIES ET PRIORITES ETABLIES DANS LE CADRE DES PLANS ET/OU POLITIQUES DE DEVELOPPEMENT DURABLE.

2.1. Evolution des stratégies

Depuis le premier séminaire régional de Nouakchott sur la Lutte Contre la Désertification, tenu en 1984 sous l'égide du CILLS et du Club de Sahel, jusqu'à la ratification par Haïti de la Convention de Lutte Contre la Désertification, en septembre 1996, des stratégies régionales sur la LCD n'ont cessé d'évoluer et d'être adoptées par les Pays Parties Touchées en fonction de leur spécificité.

2.2. Application des stratégies du développement durable en Haïti

Aucune approche globale de lutte contre la désertification n'a été encore concrétisée sur le terrain, en Haïti. Les systèmes de production traditionnels sont dépassés mais demeurent pourtant prédominants dans le mode d'accès à la terre. L'occupation du sol se présente sous des caractéristiques d'un amalgame de cultures et de comportements sociaux de production en opposition les unes avec les autres. Les diverses formes de civilisations (autochtone et occidentale) ont entraîné la gestion et le façonnement ambivalent de l'espace

agraire. Elles ont par conséquent provoqué une situation ambiguë dans le choix des technologies. Ainsi, l'exploitation des ressources naturelles, au lieu de s'inscrire dans une logique économique, est soumise à plusieurs types de contraintes socio-technique et économico-culturelles juxtaposées sur un ensemble de facteurs exo-endogènes pour contribuer à la dégradation de l'équilibre naturel du milieu. La gestion des ressources naturelles qui détermine les modes d'exploitation des différents écosystèmes d'un territoire s'incorpore dans cette contradiction. Ainsi toute innovation technique ou socio-économique qui dépasse le niveau d'organisation sociale traditionnelle rencontre naturellement la résistance du monde rural. Cette résistance est essentiellement liée à son mode d'organisation socio-économique en constante opposition avec celle du modernisme mal conçu qu'on lui impose.

### 2.3. Suivi des Conventions internationales

Haïti a signé de nombreuses conventions internationales concernant l'environnement. Le Programme d'action national de lutte contre la désertification (PAN - LCD) qui doit être structuré et mis en oeuvre dans le cadre de la Convention internationale sur la lutte contre la désertification (CCD) se situe dans le contexte de l'évolution des conceptions du développement durable et de nouvelles approches du monde rural. L'objectif du programme est de l'impliquer dans la prise de décisions pour éviter son retrait dans le processus de la gestion des ressources naturelles y compris dans le rapport avec son propre développement.. En Haïti, où des actions ponctuelles de lutte contre la dégradation des sols ont été menées depuis 1945, principalement par des institutions étatiques aux conceptions interventionnistes et sectorielles, les nouvelles conceptions de développement durable ne commencent à être diffusée auprès du monde rural qu'à la suite du Sommet de Rio de 1992. La première tentative visant son application a été la création d'un Secrétariat au Ministère de l'Environnement pour la définition d'une politique nationale de l'Environnement.

### 2.4. La politique nationale de l'environnement

Le Gouvernement haïtien (Ministère de l'environnement - MdE), avec l'appui de plusieurs bailleurs de fonds (PNUD, USAID, ACDI Canada, Banque mondiale), appuyé par des spécialistes nationaux provenant des ministères intéressés par la gestion de l'environnement, vient de publier en juin 1999 un Programme d'Action pour le Développement Durable d'Haïti.

#### 2.4.1. Orientation générale

Ce programme d'action pour l'environnement (PAE) devra déterminer la politique environnementale du Gouvernement (MDE) et servir de cadre stratégique pour une meilleure organisation, gestion et coordination des opérations actuelles et futures dans tous les domaines concernant la gestion rationnelle de l'environnement physique global. Il devra déterminer les problèmes cruciaux pour une gestion rationnelle et durable des ressources, faciliter le consensus national pour l'adoption d'une stratégie commune par toutes les parties prenantes et définir les priorités dans les divers domaines retenus. La mise en oeuvre du PAE se fera à travers des programmes composés de projets et actions de renforcement de la capacité de gestion de l'environnement national.

## 3. MESURES INSTITUTIONNELLES PRISES POUR METTRE EN OEUVRE LA CONVENTION.

### 3.1. Cadre législatif

Depuis la période de la transition à l'Indépendance nationale d'Haïti où le secteur primaire a été considéré comme la principale source de richesse, des lois relatives à la protection de ce secteur n'ont cessé d'être promulguées. Le premier Code Rural d'Haïti appelé le Code Rural Jean-Pierre Boyer de 1826 avait mis accent sur cet aspect dans lequel l'article 23 stipule "il est spécialement

défendu d'abattre des bois sur la crête des montagnes, jusqu'à cent pas de leur chute, ni à la tête et à l'entoure des sources ou sur le bord des rivières. Les propriétaires de terrains arrosés par des sources ou rivières devront entourer la tête de ces sources et planter les bords des rivières des bananiers de bambous ou autres arbres, propre à retenir la fraîcheur". Des lois édictées par les législateurs sur la protection de ressources naturelles ont été très nombreuses. Citons celles sur la pêche du 27 octobre 1978 qui réglementent la pêche, la chasse et la capture d'animaux ainsi que la loi du 4 avril 1983 sur la création de parcs nationaux et sites historiques. A chaque législature, de nombreuses lois en matière de l'environnement sont élaborées et édictées sans qu'elles soient pour autant connues du grand public et appliquées aux résolutions du problème de la surexploitation et de la dégradation des ressources naturelles.

### 3.2. La Constitution

Toutes les constitutions haïtiennes depuis 1801 à nos jours ont toujours mis l'accent sur la protection des ressources naturelles. La dernière en date, celle de 1987 contient un ensemble d'articles portant sur la question de l'environnement (articles 253 à 258). Selon cette constitution l'équilibre écologique doit être protégé contre toute pratique susceptible de le perturber. Elle fait obligation à l'Etat de protéger les sites naturels et de les mettre en valeur. La Constitution fait obligation à l'Etat d'encourager le développement d'autres formes d'énergie que le bois telles que: solaire, éolienne ou autres, dans le but de protéger les réserves forestières. L'Etat doit également procéder à la création et à l'entretien de jardins botaniques et zoologiques en certains points du territoire dans le cadre de la protection de l'Environnement et de l'éducation publique. La Constitution interdit formellement d'introduire dans le pays des déchets provenant d'autres pays de quelque nature que ce soit. La tâche spécifique du Ministère de l'Environnement est de faire respecter toutes les normes en matière de l'environnement, il lui revient au premier chef d'être le plus actif dans la conception de cette nouvelle orientation. Il a aussi pour fonction de gérer des instruments juridiques internationaux tels les Conventions internationales sur l'environnement dont les plus importantes sont celles de la Convention sur la Lutte Contre la Désertification (CCD) signée et ratifiée, de la Convention sur la biodiversité et du changement climatique.

### 3.3. Renforcement de la capacité de gestion de l'environnement national

Il s'agit du premier programme inscrit dans le cadre de mise en oeuvre du Plan d'Action National.

#### 3.3.1. Objectifs

L'objectif global de ce programme est de développer les éléments de base nécessaires pour améliorer la gouvernance en matière de gestion de l'environnement et de renforcer l'aptitude des institutions nationales à planifier, formuler et actualiser les instruments de politique susceptibles de fournir le support légal et institutionnel adéquat pour une mise en oeuvre réussie des actions environnementales.

## 4. PROCESSUS PARTICIPATIF DANS LE CADRE DE L'ELABORATION ET LA MISE EN OEUVRE DU PROGRAMME D'ACTION NATIONAL.

Depuis le sommet de Rio de 1992 le concept de l'environnement commence à se développer en Haïti. Plusieurs programmes de développement rural tiennent compte et de la nécessité d'améliorer le revenu du monde rural et d'assurer un équilibre écologique indispensable entre l'homme et le milieu. La protection des zones à forte pente par le développement d'une agriculture conservationniste est inscrite dans les programmes de développement rural et de protection des bassins versants, malgré les difficultés de sa mise en oeuvre due à de multiples

contraintes tant foncières qu'économiques. Le Ministère de l'Agriculture intervient ainsi conjointement avec le Ministère de l'Environnement dans la gestion des sols, des forêts, des ressources marines ainsi dans l'organisation des séminaires sur l'agriculture biologique et participe à la réalisation du programme du développement durable du pays en coopération avec le système des Nations Unies dont le chef de fil en Haïti est le PNUD. Le Ministère de l'Environnement dans sa mission de gestion de l'environnement essaye d'établir des liens avec tous les secteurs privés et publics travaillant dans l'un ou l'autre domaine touchant l'environnement. Dans ce contexte les mesures d'adoption des Conventions internationales des Nations Unies entrent dans son cadre opérationnel. La mise en oeuvre du PAN-LCD en Haïti va dépendre dans ce processus de la mise en place des institutions de base recommandée par la CCD sur les considérations de l'article 7 Annexe III de traitant des particularités des pays de l'Amérique Latine et les Caraïbes. Le processus participatif concerne également les ONGs qui interviennent dans les activités de défense et de restauration des sols et de l'Environnement. L'implication des acteurs tant locaux que nationaux dans le processus d'élaboration, et de mise en œuvre du programme d'action national, constitue une condition déterminante et nécessaire pour tirer le meilleur profit de la CCD. L'application de la Convention de la Lutte contre la Désertification implique la collaboration entre plusieurs partenaires institutionnels et la participation adéquate de la société civile à leur résolution. La création du Ministère de l'Environnement depuis novembre 1994 devrait répondre à cet objectif car il constitue une base institutionnelle adéquate de la politique gouvernementale mettant l'homme au centre du processus de développement et en même temps l'instrument et la finalité de ce développement.

### 4.1. Information et Sensibilisation

L'outil principal de la mise en oeuvre des instruments de politiques environnementales a été l'organisation des Ateliers et Séminaires en Haïti. L'objectif principal de ces ateliers est de permettre aux communautés locales de faire le diagnostic du phénomène de la dégradation de l'environnement, d'y réfléchir ensemble et de suggérer des solutions appropriées. L'élaboration du Plan d'Action National pour l'Environnement (PAE) a été la première expérience participative adoptée par le Ministère de l'Environnement. La Méthode Accélérée de Recherche Participative (MARP) a été la base de cette formation qui avait permis la réalisation de 93 plans communaux environnementaux sur un total de 133 communes du pays. Dans cette perspective de sensibilisation du grand public, tous les programmes environnementaux comportent des options de sensibilisation sous plusieurs formes: séjour d'études à l'étranger pour les élus locaux et l'encadrement des populations locales, campagne de publicité au niveau des départements et des communes; rencontres avec les associations paysannes, les groupements de femmes et les directeurs des C.A.S.E.C; colloques pour marquer l'émergence de la volonté d'un véritable partenariat entre l'Etat haïtien et les différentes instances de la société civile pour une approche unitaire et harmonieuse de la protection de l'environnement; séminaires pour attirer l'attention du public en général et des investisseurs en particulier sur la nécessité de participer, chacun en ce qui le concerne, au programme de conservation et de substitution énergétique souhaitée par tous, surtout à cause de son impact sur l'environnement; colloque exposition sur le thème "Industrie de la Construction Environnement et Santé" dans le but de favoriser un débat sur la problématique liée au secteur et de dégager des alternatives susceptibles d'améliorer la situation de coupe de bois pour l'étranger; ateliers sur la gestion et la législation de l'eau en Haïti; marche de l'Espoir afin de sensibiliser le secteur scolaire sur la nécessité de protéger l'espèce végétale et de contribuer à l'extension des aires boisées à l'occasion de la journée Internationale de l'Environnement; atelier sur les changements climatiques en vue de dégager avec les secteurs publics et privés les pistes devant aboutir à la préparation de la communication nationale d'Haïti relative à la Convention Cadre des Nations Unies sur le Changement Climatiques; matinées de sensibilisation sur la préservation de la couche d'Ozone; journées de

sensibilisation à l'intention des militants des secteurs Santé et Environnement dans le cadre du programme de sensibilisation de la population sur la participation communautaire à l'assainissement du milieu; atelier régional sur "l'aménagement concerté des terres et des eaux en zones montagnes humides dans les Iles des Caraïbes.

### 4.2. Education relative à l'environnement

En dehors des interventions visant au renforcement du secteur environnemental, les interventions dans le domaine de l'éducation relative à l'environnement ont été en majorité des appuis à des sollicitations externes ponctuelles. Les réalisations les plus marquantes ont été enregistrées dans le cadre d'organisation des journées de sensibilisation sur les enjeux de la Lutte contre la Désertification; concours d'affiches sur le thème environnemental visant le public scolaire et parascolaire à l'occasion de la Journée Mondiale de l'Environnement du 5 juin; d'expositions photographiques sur les problèmes de l'environnement haïtien et les perspectives de redressement de la situation; séminaires, journées de formation à l'intention des membres de groupements paysans. L'éducation relative à l'environnement comporte également la participation en coopération avec le Ministère de l'Education Nationale et de diverses autres institutions privées à l'organisation de concours de dessins d'enfants sur l'environnement, aux fins de production d'un calendrier pour l'année 1997. Elle s'adresse au patronage et appui financier ou en matériel à la réalisation de colloques et séminaires par diverses organisations écologiques, organisations communautaires et association socioprofessionnelle à sensibilité environnementale. Elle encourage le développement d'activités d'assainissement de bourgades sous la forme de décoration comportant des slogans de sensibilisation à l'environnement sur banderoles ou sur maillots, à l'occasion des fêtes patronales. A chaque manifestation importante, comme celle de la fête de l'arbre, des séances d'animation s'organisent soit par un spot télévisé de sensibilisation à la décoration d'arbres vivants comme arbres de Noël plutôt que de pins coupés dans les mornes. La projection de documentaires et causeries de motivation sur le déboisement reste le domaine de sensibilisation le plus important en Haïti. Dans cette même perspective, on commence à organiser des salons de l'arbre et de l'environnement pour célébrer la Saison de l'Arbre et la Journée Internationale de l'Environnement afin de montrer aux jeunes et à la population la diversité du pays en matière de faune et de flore de mobiliser un large secteur de la population sur les potentialités du pays et les sensibiliser sur la nécessité de la sauvegarde du patrimoine écologique.

### 4.3. Les femmes et le problème de l'environnement

La Convention internationale sur la Lutte Contre la Désertification souligne expressément le rôle particulier des femmes dans la gestion durable des bases d'existences naturelles. Dans le contexte d'Haïti, tant en milieu rural qu'en espace urbain, rien ne peut se faire en dehors de leur participation. Tenant compte de cette réalité, un volet de Femme et Gestion des Ressources Naturelles a été mise en place dans le cadre de la préparation du Profil de la Désertification d'Haïti en vue d'assurer la participation des femmes dans la lutte contre la désertification. Le Ministère de l'Agriculture des Ressources Naturelles et du Développement Rural (MARNDR) de son coté s'intéresse de façon spéciale à l'amélioration de l'habileté et de la capacité productive des femmes dans le secteur agricole ainsi qu'à leur encadrement dans les activités traditionnelles réalisées par elles (ensemencement, récoltes, décorticage, conservation, transformation des produits agricoles). Le Ministère de l'Environnement encadre les femmes dans l'identification des sources alternatives d'énergie en lieu et place du charbon de bois et il les assiste en milieu rural dans l'identification et la protection des points d'eau potable. Les femmes se sont engagées à promouvoir une participation aussi large que possible, à la mise en place et au développement des capacités d'institutions qui lancent et supervisent des mesures de protection de l'environnement.

## 5. PROCESSUS CONSULTATIF ET ACCORDS DE PARTENARIAT AVEC LES PAYS DEVELOPPES PARTIES ET LES AUTRES ENTITES INTERESSEES.

A l'heure actuelle le PNUD se charge d'élaborer conjointement avec le gouvernement d'Haïti le bilan commun de pays qui servira de base à la programmation commune et à l'harmonisation des cycles de programme. La préparation de ce bilan a été faite dans un large processus de consultation et de partenariat. Elle a impliqué la participation de 17 groupes thématiques constitués de représentant du Gouvernement, d'organismes des Nations Unies, d'organismes des donateurs et de la société civile.

### 5.1. La Commission Mixte Haïtianno-Dominicaine

- Sur la base de coopération entre pays voisins, Haïti travaille avec la République Dominicaine, son plus proche voisin, au sein d'une commission conjointe appelée "Commission Mixte" haïtiano-dominicaine.

- Il a été mis sur pied tout un programme transfrontalier, entre les deux pays, qui reçoit l'appui de plusieurs Bailleurs de fonds.

### 5.2. Le CARIFORUM

Au sein de cette entité, une commission conjointe dite aussi "Commission Mixte" a établi un terrain propice à la discussion de problèmes spécifiquement environnementaux entre Haïti et la République dominicaine. Tout un programme transfrontalier a été mis sur pied entre les deux pays. Du point de vue de la décentralisation, l'accent est mis sur un nouveau système de programmation dont le cadre territorial est le département. Avec la décentralisation en cours, celui-ci sera doté d'une forme de gouvernement local représenté par les directions départementales et les élus locaux.

### 5.3. Système du partenariat et avis technique du Ministère de l'Environnement

Le Ministère coopère avec plusieurs autres institutions étatiques auxquelles il fournit un appui technique et des avis sur divers dossiers ayant rapport à l'environnement. Ce cadre de partenariat s'élargit à d'autres secteurs. Le MdE a participé à l'atelier départemental ouest réalisé par la Secrétairie d'état à la Population sur la Problématique "Population et Développement"Il fourni également un appui technique aux différentes Commissions du Bureau de la Protection Civile du Ministère de l'Environnement. Avec le Ministère de l'Education Nationale de la Jeunesse et aux Sports, il contribue au processus d'intégration du concept "Vie familiale, Sexualité, Genre, Population et Environnement"aux curricula de l'Ecole, projet initié par le Ministère de l'Education Nationale de la Jeunesse et aux Sports[3].

## 6. LES MESURES PRISES OU ENVISAGEES DANS LE CADRE DES PROGRAMMES D'ACTION NATIONAUX.

Dans ce cadre, le Gouvernement haïtien (Ministère de l'environnement - MdE) accorde un intérêt particulier à la structuration d'un Programme d'action national pour la lutte contre la désertification (PAN - LCD) en accord avec la Convention internationale pour la lutte contre la désertification (CCD) signée par le Gouvernement en 1994 et ratifiée par l'Assemblée nationale en juin 1996. L'apport spécifique de cette problématique au processus général va consister en la méthodologie de travail avec les différents secteurs des communautés locales et régionales sur la base des principes de partenariat par lesquels l'esprit et

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[3] Tiré du Bilan Annuel-1998-1999, du Ministère de l'Environnement p.p-38-39, septembre 1999.

la lettre de la Convention de lutte contre la Désertification (CCD) confèrent à cette Convention une approche spécifique pour sa mise en oeuvre. En relation avec les articles 4 et 5 de la CCD qui font obligation aux pays parties touchés d'entreprendre une série d'activités dans le cadre d'un Programme d'Action National (PAN) avec ses partenaires, à partir d'expériences concrètes. Le processus de mise en oeuvre du PAN comporte ainsi deux grandes phases: la mise en place du cadre institutionnel et l'élaboration du PAN. Chaque phase se décompose en plusieurs étapes pouvant être concomitantes et s'interpénétrer selon un processus itératif.

7. LES RESSOURCES FINANCIERES ALLOUEES AU TITRE DU BUDGET NATIONAL

La plupart des actions visant à restaurer l'environnement sont actuellement financées dans le cadre de projets ou programmes de gestion des Ressources Naturelles, de développement local. Cette situation résulte d'une évolution des mécanismes financiers qui privilégient désormais les projets ou programmes multi-sectoriels grâce à la coopération multilatérale.

8. EXAMEN DES REPERES ET INDICATEURS

Tenant compte de la localisation du pays dans les Caraïbes très exposé à des phénomènes naturels et anthropiques: variabilité du climat, inondation, glissement de terrain, raz-de-marée, érosion, sécheresse, incendies, séismes, cyclones, il a été classé comme région à risque permanent et croissant par le Comité National de Gestion du Risque et de Désastres. De cette date à nos jours, en dépit de l'aggravation des conditions socio-économiques du pays et le développement des facteurs de sa vulnérabilité tels la dégradation de l'environnement, la sédimentation des lacs, des rivières et des côtes maritimes, cette organisation a évolué. Après le passage du Cyclone Georges, en septembre 1998, et en résultat des missions d'appui technique de la coopération internationale, la question de la prévention et mitigation des désastres est devenue un point clé dans la définition des priorités d'action et de coopération pour la phase post-désastre. Les autorités nationales se sont engagées à mettre en oeuvre un Plan National de Gestion de Désastres et la construction d'un Système National plus efficace. Ce plan est le résultat du travail coordonné de plusieurs institutions, dirigées par le Ministère de l'intérieur, et constitue la base pour une intervention intégrale de façon ponctuelle et à long terme. Le Plan fait partie des engagements et des priorités établies dans le Plan d'Action pour l'Environnement.

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